

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
  - 2 determining a first system Advanced Configuration and Power Interface
  - 3 Specification (ACPI) state; and
  - 4 switching a parallel Advanced Technology Attachment (PATA) based upon the
  - 5 ACPI state.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the ACPI S state is selected from the
  - 2 group consisting of S0, S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5.
- 1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the switching is between two devices.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the two devices are the first system
  - 2 and a subsystem.
- 1 5. The method according to claim 4, wherein:
  - 2 if the ACPI state is S0, S1, or S2 then the PATA is switched to the first system;
  - 3 and
  - 4 if the ACPI state is S3, S4, or S5 then the PATA is switched to the subsystem.
- 1 6. The method according to claim 4, wherein:

2 if the ACPI state is S0, or S1 then the PATA is switched to the first system; and  
3 if the ACPI state is S2, S3, S4, or S5 then the PATA is switched to the  
4 subsystem.

1 7. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when  
2 executed by a processor, causes said processor to perform the following:  
3 determine a first system Advanced Configuration and Power Interface  
4 Specification (ACPI) state; and  
5 switch a parallel Advanced Technology Attachment (PATA) based upon the  
6 ACPI state.

1 8. The machine-readable medium according to claim 7, wherein switching the  
2 PATA is between a plurality of devices.

1 9. A system comprising:  
2 a Parallel Advance Technology Attachment (PATA) device connected to a  
3 switch;  
4 a first system to connect to the PATA device through the switch; and  
5 a subsystem to connect to the PATA device through the switch;

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the switch connecting the PATA device does not  
2 connect both the first system and the subsystem to the PATA device simultaneously.

1 11. The system of claim 9, wherein the switch operation is controlled by signals  
2 from the first system.

1 12. An apparatus comprising:  
2 means for determining a first system Advanced Configuration and Power  
3 Interface Specification (ACPI) state; and  
4 means for switching a parallel Advanced Technology Attachment (PATA) based  
5 upon the ACPI S state.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein means for switching further comprises a  
2 mutually exclusive switching means to a plurality of destinations.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the ACPI state is selected from the group  
2 consisting of S0, S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the means for switching the PATA device  
2 determine whether to switch based upon signals from the first system.